

54TH REGULAR SESSION

Sec. 3. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at the General Election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, A.D. 1956, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon:

"FOR the Amendment to Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Texas by amending Sections 17 and 18 thereof, providing a method of payment for the construction and equipment of buildings and other permanent improvements at State institutions of higher learning; and by adding a new section thereto to be designated as Section 11a, providing for the improved support of The University of Texas System and the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College System by authorizing the investment of the Permanent University Fund in corporate bonds and stocks under certain conditions and limitations."

"AGAINST the Amendment to Article VII of the Constitution of the State of Texas by amending Sections 17 and 18 thereof, providing a method of payment for the construction and equipment of buildings and other permanent improvements at State institutions of higher learning; and by adding a new section thereto to be designated as Section 11a, providing for the improved support of The University of Texas System and the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College System by authorizing the investment of the Permanent University Fund in corporate bonds and stocks under certain conditions and limitations."

Sec. 4. The Governor shall issue the necessary proclamation for said election and have the same published as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

Passed the House, March 22, 1955: Yeas 133, Nays 6; House refused to concur in Senate amendments, April 21, 1955, and requested appointment of Conference Committee to consider differences between the two Houses; House adopted Conference Committee Report, May 9, 1955: Yeas 129, Nays 7; passed the Senate, as amended, April 20, 1955: Yeas 27, Nays 4; at request of House, Senate appointed Conference Committee to consider differences between the two Houses; Senate adopted Conference Committee report, May 16, 1955: Yeas 25, Nays 6.

Approved May 31, 1955.

To be voted at election to be held Nov. 6, 1956.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT—TAX LEVY

H. J. R. No. 23

Proposing an Amendment to Section 9 of Article VIII of the Constitution of Texas so as to provide that the Commissioners Court in each county may levy whatever sums may be necessary for general fund purposes, permanent improvement fund purposes, road and bridge purposes and jury purposes so long as the total of these tax rates does not exceed Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year, and providing further that the Commissioners Court shall not impair any outstanding bonds or other obligations; providing for the necessary election and form of ballot; and providing for the necessary proclamations and publications.

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

Section 1. That Section 9, Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Texas be amended so as to hereafter read as follows:

"Section 9. The State tax on property, exclusive of the tax necessary to pay the public debt, and of the taxes provided for the benefit of the public free schools, shall never exceed Thirty-five Cents (35¢) on the One

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Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation; and no county, city or town shall levy a tax rate in excess of Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year for general fund, permanent improvement fund, road and bridge fund and jury fund purposes; provided further that at the time the Commissioners Court meets to levy the annual tax rate for each county it shall levy whatever tax rate may be needed for the four (4) constitutional purposes: namely, general fund, permanent improvement fund, road and bridge fund and jury fund so long as the Court does not impair any outstanding bonds or other obligations and so long as the total of the foregoing tax levies does not exceed Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year. Once the Court has levied the annual tax rate, the same shall remain in force and effect during that taxable year; and the Legislature may also authorize an additional annual ad valorem tax to be levied and collected for the further maintenance of the public roads; provided, that a majority of the qualified property tax paying voters of the county voting at an election to be held for that purpose shall vote such tax, not to exceed Fifteen Cents (15¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation of the property subject to taxation in such county. And the Legislature may pass local laws for the maintenance of the public roads and highways, without the local notice required for special or local laws. This Section shall not be construed as a limitation of powers delegated to counties, cities or towns by any other Section or Sections of this Constitution."

Sec. 2. The foregoing Constitutional Amendment shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of this State at an election to be held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November, 1956, at which election all ballots shall have printed thereon the following:

"FOR the Constitutional Amendment authorizing the Commissioners Court in each county to levy whatever sums may be necessary for general fund, permanent improvement fund, road and bridge fund and jury fund purposes so long as the total of these funds does not exceed a maximum tax rate of Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year and so long as the Court does not impair any outstanding bonds or other obligations.

"AGAINST the Constitutional Amendment authorizing the Commissioners Court in each county to levy whatever sums may be necessary for general fund, permanent improvement fund, road and bridge fund and jury fund purposes so long as the total of these funds does not exceed a maximum tax rate of Eighty Cents (80¢) on the One Hundred Dollars (\$100) valuation in any one (1) year and so long as the Court does not impair any outstanding bonds or other obligations."

Sec. 3. The Governor of Texas shall issue the necessary proclamation for the election and this Amendment shall be published in the manner and for the length of time as required by the Constitution and laws of this State.

Adopted by the House, March 15, 1955: Yeas 127, Nays 5, 1 present not voting; passed by the Senate, April 28, 1955: Yeas 22, Nays 6.

Approved May 21, 1955.

To be voted at election to be held Nov. 6, 1956.